

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15  
ICA-11 AID-05 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /084 W  
-----112282 090621Z /11

R 080100Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9330  
INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
USLO PEKING  
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 0639

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: PEPR, ID, UR, CH, VM, XC, XH  
SUBJECT: REMARKS BY INDONESIAN AMBASSADOR

REF: VIENTIANE 0628

SUMMARY: THE INDONESIAN AMBASSADOR IN VIENTIANE HAS STATED THAT THE GOI HOPED TO IMPROVE ITS RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION, EASTERN EUROPE, AND VIETNAM WHILE CONTINUING TO HOLD OFF ON ESTABLISHING CLOSER TIES WITH THE PRC AND CAMBODIA. END SUMMARY.

1. THE INDONESIAN AMBASSADOR TO LAOS, SUFFRI JUSUF, HAS OUTLINED TO SEVERAL MID-LEVEL ASEAN, WESTERN EUROPEAN, AND US DIPLOMATS WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS HIS GOVERNMENT'S POLICY CONCERNING ITS RELATIONS WITH THE INDOCHINESE COUNTRIES, THE PRC, AND EASTERN EUROPE. JUSUF RECENTLY RETURNED FROM  
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JANKATA, AND HE GAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT HE WAS EXPLAINING RECENT POLICY DECISIONS. HOWEVER HE GAVE NO INDICATION THAT HE WAS UNDER INSTRUCTIONS TO RAISE THESE POINTS IN VIENTIANE.

2. JUSUF SAID THAT INDONESIA INTENDED TO HOLD OFF ON ANY ADDITIONAL MOVES TOWARD MORE NORMAL RELATIONS WITH THE

PRC. IN PARTICULAR, HE SAID THAT THE GOI WOULD NOT AGREE TO DIRECT TRADE WITH THE PRC AND THAT THE EXISTING INDIRECT TRADE WAS ADEQUATE FOR THE PRESENT. HE SAID THAT THE REASONS FOR THIS DECISION INCLUDED DOMESTIC POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS SUCH AS ANTI-CHINESE FEELINGS IN INDONESIA AND THE SERIOUS PROBLEM OF ILLEGAL CHINESE IMMIGRATION.

3. JUSUF MENTIONED THAT, IN CONTRAST TO THIS, INDONESIA HOPED TO MOVE CLOSER TO THE SOVIET UNION AND EASTERN EUROPE. HE CLAIMED THAT ONE REASON FOR THIS WAS A MARKED DECLINE IN US AND JAPANESE INVESTMENT IN INDONESIA WHICH WAS CAUSING JAKARTA TO LOOK TO EASTERN EUROPE FOR SUPPORT.

4. SIMILARLY, HE NOTED THAT THE GOI WISHED TO IMPROVE ITS RELATIONS WITH VIETNAM. AS AN EXAMPLE HE MENTIONED THE HIGH PRIORITY THE GOI PLACED ON ITS EFFORTS TO REACH AN AGREEMENT WITH HANOI CONCERNING THE CONTINENTAL SHELF (REFTEL) SO THAT THEY MIGHT PUSH AHEAD TO EXPLOIT RESOURCES IN AREAS NOW IN DISPUTE. AS A COROLLARY TO IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH THE SRV, HE STATED THAT INDONESIA HAD FOR NOW LITTLE INTEREST IN CLOSER CONTACT WITH KAMPUCHEA. KDD WOULD NOT AGREE TO A KAMPUCHEAN REQUEST FOR DISCUSSIONS IN JAKARTA.

5. COMMENT: WE ARE NOT IN A POSITION TO EVALUATE JUSUF'S STATEMENTS, BUT WE BELIEVE THEY MAY BE OF INTEREST TO  
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THE DEPARTMENT OF JAKARTA. IT DOES SEEM TO US, HOWEVER, THAT IF HIS ASSERTIONS ARE INDEED REFLECTIONS OF AN INDONESIAN POLICY TO MOVE CLOSER TO THE SOVIETS AND THE VIETNAMESE AT THE EXPENSE OF THE PRC AND KAMPUCHEA, IT COULD PRODUCE SOME STRAINS WITH OTHER ASEAN COUNTRIES SUCH AS THAILAND WHO ARE SEEKING TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH THE PRC.  
ROBERTS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, AMBASSADORS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** PEPR, ID, UR, CH, VM, XC, XH, (JUSUF, SUFFRI)  
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**Review Markings:**  
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